

C L A I M S

1- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon, comprising an origin cylinder (1) for the heat-sensitive ink ribbon (2) which is guided by small rollers (3) towards a rewinding cylinder (5) which is related to traction means, with at least one marking header along the path of the ribbon (2), so that between markings, by the rising and lowering of the header and with the advance of the ribbon (2) a segment of said ribbon is left unused, further comprising means for return and tensioning of the ribbon (2) which allow marking with the segments of the ribbon (1) not used in the advance; characterised in that the return and tension means of the ribbon comprise a moving support (6) which is provided with guiding means for the ribbon (2), so that the latter follows an additional motion (16); further comprising braking means (10, 11, 12, 14) for the origin cylinder (1) so that as the ribbon (2) is pulled the moving support (6) is forced to advance against the action of an elastic element (13) which complements said moving support (6), thereby reducing the additional motion (16) of the ribbon (2). Thus, after a marking (a-b) the traction means move the ribbon backwards, and with it the support (6) by action of the elastic element (13), to place the segment of ribbon (a-b) under the header at a point (c) so that when the ribbon again advances to perform a new marking (b-d) this marking is performed just after the previous marking (a-b); such that the braking means are activated by the moving support for which after one or several markings are performed with their corresponding advances and returns, the support will release the braking means, unrolling a length of ribbon required by the traction, all of this such that the ribbon (2) remains tense at all times.

2.- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon,
as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the action of
the braking means for the origin cylinder (1) takes place
when the moving support (6) reaches a certain advance
position where it contacts the braking these, which means
release the origin cylinder (1) so that the traction means
(2) in the forward direction unwind the ribbon (2), and
later during the return motion they cause the return of the
moving support (6) by the action of the spring (13) and a
new braking of the origin cylinder (1), the process thus
being repeated.

3.- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon,
as claimed in above claims, characterised in that the
braking means of the origin cylinder (1) consist of a
swivelling lever (12) provided with a shoe (11) and
complemented by a spring (14) which keeps the shoe (11)
pressed against the shaft (1') of the origin cylinder (1).

4.- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon,
as claimed in claim 3, characterised in that the swivelling
lever (10) is placed in the path of the moving support (6),
such that when said support contacts the lever the latter
swivels, overcoming the action of the spring (14);
separating shoe (11) from shaft (1') of the origin cylinder
(1), so that when the lever (10) is no longer acted upon
the spring (14) again forces the shoe (11) to brake the
origin cylinder.

5.- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon,
as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the elastic
element which complements the moving support (6) is a
spring (13).

6.- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon,

as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the moving support (6) is retained in guides (8) in which it slides during its motion.

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7.- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon, as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that it includes a stop (9) which limits the motion of the support in its return path.

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8.- Traction device for heat-sensitive ink ribbon, as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the guiding means for the ribbon (2) provided on the support are embodied in a roller (7).